

RÆSTAD et al
Serial No. 09/655,871

Atty Dkt: 3842-3
Art Unit: 2134

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of the patentability of the claims of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,259,691 to Naudus. Claims 3, 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unbatentable over U.S. Patent 6,259,691 to Naudus in view of U.S. Patent 5,999,525 to Krishnaswamy et al. All prior art rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

The March 10, 2004 Office Action, which apparently has been incorporated into the final Office Action, alleges in (e.g., in enumerated paragraph 13) that the Naudus gateway 40 performs call authentication. However, the Naudus gateway 40 is not an authentication proxy in the sense of Applicants' claims, since the Naudus gateway 40 corresponds, at best, to an endpoint of Applicants' claims. Thus, it is inconsistent and incorrect to refer to the Naudus gateway 40 as an authentication proxy.

According to Applicants' disclosure, the "authentication proxy 2" appears (to the H.235-enabled gatekeeper) to be an H.235-enabled version of the actual end-point (keep in mind that the actual end-point is not H.235 enabled). Such being the case, the gatekeeper will proceed with the authentication procedure according to the H.235 protocol. Thus, the end-point, which is not enabled for H.235 authentication according to H.323 V2, may be authenticated towards an H.235-enabled gatekeeper, thereby providing for apparent compatibility between an end-point operating according to H323 V1 and a network (i.e. Gatekeeper) operating according to H.323 V2.

The Final Office Action seems to prompt the applicant to address introduction of the new version (V2) of the H.323 standard. The intimation in the Final Office Action is

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that a "transition" from V1 to V2 of the H.323 standard has prompted the solution now claimed. However, the opposite is in fact true, as end-points and other network elements remain operational regardless of the version to which they abide. The advent of version 2 has created new opportunities, but does not teach or suggest the specific implementation claimed by Applicants. It is incorrect to conclude that the person of ordinary skill in the art would have been prompted to make all modifications and adaptations of what has been previously taught, and to combine such modifications and adaptations to arrive at the present claims without considerable inventive contribution.

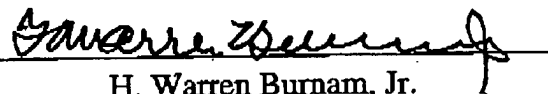
In view of the foregoing and other considerations, all claims are deemed in condition for allowance. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application, including but not limited to any extension of time fees which currently or henceforth may come due for continued pendency of the captioned application.

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

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